



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

INSPECTION REPORT

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor

Lowell P. Braxton
Division Director

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Partial:___ Complete: xxx Exploration:___

Inspection Date & Time: 4/20/99 / 7:45a.m.-3:00p.m.

Date of Last Inspection: 3/4/99

Mine Name: Willow Creek Mine County: Carbon Permit Number: ACT/007/038

Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation

Business Address: 847 Northwest Highway 191, Helper, Utah 84526

Type of Mining Activity: Underground XXX Surface___ Prep. Plant___ Other___

Company Official(s): Johnny Pappas, Reed McCourt

State Officials(s): Peter Hess Federal Official(s): None

Weather Conditions: Cloudy, Warm, 50's

Existing Acreage: Permitted- 14,670 Disturbed- 206.7 Regraded-___ Seeded-___ Bonded- 206.7

Increased/Decreased: Permitted-___ Disturbed-___ Regraded-___ Seeded-___ Bonded-___

Status: Exploration/ XXX Active/___ Inactive/___ Temporary Cessation/___ Bond Forfeiture

Reclamation (Phase I/Phase II/ Final Bond Release/___ Liability___ Year)

REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS & PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

Instructions

- Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
 - For complete inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check N/A.
 - For partial inspections check only the elements evaluated.
- Document any noncompliance situation by referencing the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments.

	EVALUATED	N/A	COMMENTS	NOV/ENF
1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. TOPSOIL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. DIVERSIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. WATER MONITORING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. NONCOAL WASTE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. REVEGETATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. ROADS:				
a. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June)_____(date)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. BONDING & INSURANCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

Note: The recovery of the Willow Creek Mine is now proceeding on a seven day a week schedule. Although some coal has been produced on weekends from the development sections, same has been halted to pursue the present recovery schedule. Present plans are to define and more thoroughly seal anticipated "hot spots" in the fire area, prior to reintroducing air to the longwall section of the Mine. The permittee anticipates that it will be at least another month before coal production can be resumed.

2. SIGNS AND MARKERS

The permittee has installed four disturbed area perimeter markers to define the collinear boundary between the plant's DAB and the Utah Railway track right-of-way.

4b. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS

Quarterly impoundment inspections for the site were performed by Mr. Johnny Pappas on March 30, 1999. Mr. Pappas inspects all ponds, with the exception of 013A, (School House Canyon MSHA pond), which is inspected by Mr. Roland Tallerico. No problems or signs of instability were noted for any of the impoundments. Although pond 001A is receiving Mine water, it has not been necessary to transfer same to 013A, as was the practice prior to the November 25, 1998 fire.

Annual impoundment certifications for the Willow Creek ponds were performed by Mr. Dan Guy, P.E., Blackhawk Engineering on December 28, 1999.

All impoundments were certified as being stable, and as having sufficient sediment storage capacity to meet the requirements of the 10 year 24 hour design event.

4d. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: WATER MONITORING

Discharge monitoring reports for the first three months of 1999 for the site's numerous UPDES discharge points were reviewed. None of the points had outfalls; all reports were timely. Mr. John Borla is the new Manager of Technical Services and the permittee's authorized representative signing the EPA reports.

7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS

The first quarter refuse pile inspection for the School House Canyon site was conducted by Mr. Johnny Pappas on March 26, 1999. Mr. Tom Hurst, P.E., certified the inspection on April 12, '99. No problems were noted by either individual.

The annual P. E. certification for School House Canyon pile was conducted by Mr. Dan Guy of Blackhawk Engineering Company on January 31, 1999. No problems or signs of instability were noted by Mr. Guy. Based on plan and cross section drawings submitted with the certification, the elevation at the center crown of the pile has increased about eleven feet from 1997 to 1998. Due to this, it has been necessary to install an additional switchback in the haul road at the front of the pile.

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The subsidence monitoring of the three points relative to CGD-5 (undisturbed by-pass ditch on NW side of the pile at elevation 6550), was performed and certified by Mr. Guy on March 10, 1999. All elevation differentials (+/-) were less than one foot. This is a requirement of the mining and reclamation plan.

13. REVEGETATION

There is a triangular shaped area SE of sediment pond 12-B between the wash plant access road and the rail car spur track that the permittee should look at relative to revegetation. The area is a depression, and precipitation falling on same will report to pond 12-B. The area is pink in color which is probably indicative of a large amount of "red dog" (superheated overburden above a burning coal seam). It may be impossible for anything to grow here.

16a. ROADS: CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING

The permittee has culverted and constructed the dozer access road across the Barn Canyon drainage. Jersey barriers have been installed on both sides of this access as delineators. This road will prevent the tearing up of the road surface adjacent to pond 011A by crawler track cleats.

The permittee has hauled in fill material to slope the access road to the rail car loadout (same road passing pond 011A). This will provide positive drainage of same to the northern most inlet ditch going to pond 011A. As noted in previous inspection reports, this area has become a quagmire from snow melt and the fact that dozer crawlers have kept the surface loose.

19. AVS CHECK

The permittee submitted new AVS information on February 4, 1999 as part of the Willow Creek "as-built" submittal (ACT/007/038-98G). According to Ms. Pamela Grubaugh-Littig of the DOGM-SLO, the information is accurate; same will be approved as part of 98G when same takes place.

20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT

The permittee has applied for and received a new air quality approval order relative to the installation of a crushing/screening plant on the overland conveyor. DAQE-209-99 replaced DAQE-766-98, effective March 15, 1999. Throughput remains at 7,000,000 TPY.

Note: This inspection report does not constitute an affidavit of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: Johnny Pappas (Plateau)

Henry Austin (OSM)

Given to: Joe Helfrich (DOGM)

Filed to: Price Field Office

Date: April 21, 1999

Inspector's Signature: _____

Peter Hess

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